



General Assembly

February Session, 2002

Amendment

LCO No. 4512

HB0562504512HD0

Offered by:

REP. O'ROURKE, 32nd Dist.

SEN. FONFARA, 1st Dist.

REP. HAMZY, 78th Dist.

REP. FERRARI, 62nd Dist.

SEN. HERLIHY, 8th Dist.

To: Subst. House Bill No. 5625

File No. 324

Cal. No. 209

**"AN ACT CONCERNING THE CONFIDENTIALITY OF MILITARY
DISCHARGE DOCUMENTS."**

1 Strike everything after the enacting clause and substitute the
2 following in lieu thereof:

3 "Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2002*) (a) As used in this
4 section: (1) "Armed forces" means the Army, Navy, Marine Corps,
5 Coast Guard or Air Force of the United States; (2) "veteran" means any
6 person honorably discharged from, or released under honorable
7 conditions from active service or reserve status in the armed forces; (3)
8 "military discharge document" means a United States Department of
9 Defense form, including, but not limited to, a DD 214 form, or any
10 valid paper that evidences the service, discharge or retirement of a
11 veteran from the armed forces that contains personal information such
12 as a service number or Social Security number; (4) "person" means any

13 individual or entity, including, but not limited to, a relative of a
14 veteran, a licensed funeral director or embalmer, an attorney-at-law, an
15 attorney-in-fact, an insurance company or a veterans' advocate; and (5)
16 "public agency" or "agency" means a public agency, as defined in
17 section 1-200 of the general statutes, as amended.

18 (b) A veteran or designee may file a military discharge document
19 with the town clerk of the town in which the veteran resides or with
20 any other public agency if the military discharge document is related
21 to the business of the town or other agency, and the town or agency
22 shall maintain and record the military discharge document in
23 accordance with this section.

24 (c) Notwithstanding any provision of chapter 55 of the general
25 statutes, or any provision of section 11-8 or 11-8a of the general
26 statutes, any military discharge document filed by or on behalf of a
27 veteran with a public agency before, on or after October 1, 2002, except
28 a military discharge document recorded before October 1, 2002, on the
29 land records of a town, shall be retained by the agency separate and
30 apart from the other records of the agency. The contents of such
31 document shall be confidential for at least seventy-five years from the
32 date the document is filed with the public agency, except that:

33 (1) The information contained in the document shall be available to
34 the veteran, or a conservator of the person of the veteran or a
35 conservator of the estate of the veteran, at all times;

36 (2) Any information contained in such military discharge document
37 which is necessary to establish, or that aids in establishing, eligibility
38 for any local, state or federal benefit or program applied for by, or on
39 behalf of, the veteran, including, but not limited to, the name of the
40 veteran, the veteran's residential address, dates of qualifying active or
41 reserve military service, or military discharge status, shall be available
42 to the public at all times; and

43 (3) Any information contained in the document, other than the
44 information available under subdivision (2) of this subsection, shall be

45 available to (A) any person who may provide a benefit to, or acquire a
46 benefit for, the veteran or the estate of the veteran, provided the person
47 needs the information to provide the benefit and submits satisfactory
48 evidence of such need to the agency, (B) the State Librarian as required
49 for the performance of his or her duties, and (C) a genealogical society
50 incorporated or authorized by the Secretary of the State to do business
51 or conduct affairs in this state or a member of such genealogical
52 society.

53 (d) The provisions of this section concerning the maintenance and
54 recording of Department of Defense documents shall not apply to the
55 State Library Board or the State Librarian."

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| This act shall take effect as follows: | |
| Section 1 | October 1, 2002 |